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SCHUYLER FAMILY.

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JOEL MUNSELL.

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The Schuyler Family.

The Schuylers came from Amsterdam, and settled in Albany. The first of the name were two brothers, David and Philip, familiarly known in their time as David Pieterse and Philip Pieterse (the termination *se* and *sen* being used promiscuously by the Dutch)—that is, David and Philip, the sons of Pieter. And agreeably to a custom likewise prevalent among the Dutch, the eldest son of David was named after his grandfather Pieter, and was known as Pieter Davidse; and Philip having a son Pieter also, by the same custom he became Pieter Philipse, to distinguish him from his cousin, the son of David. This arrangement prevented confusion in regard to their identity, and was also a clue to three generations. Yet by this custom, serving so well for the time being, some citizens lost their patronymics. A son of this Pieter Philipsen often signed his name simply Philip Pietersen, by which he would now be known to but a very few. Such original family names as now end in *sen* have thus been lost. For a considerable time after the settlement of the country, many persons seem to have had no other than a baptismal name, and were distinguished one from another by their occupations, or the place from whence they emigrated, or some other adventitious circumstance, which eventually became the family name of their posterity. It often occurs in the church and other records, that a baptismal name alone appears, and the subject was left to take its chances for any other distinguishing cognomen.

The line of David Schuyler, supposed to have been the elder of the two brothers, is not now much known in the vicinity of Albany. His immediate descendants were men of note in their time. His son, Pieter, resided in Claverack, and when Albany was chartered, in 1685, he was commissioned Judge of the Court of Oyer and Terminer of Albany County. His third son, Abraham, was master of the sloop Hopewell, equivalent at that day in dignity and importance, perhaps, to captain of a Cunard steamer! His fourth and fifth sons, David Davidse and Myndert Davidse, were successively mayors of Albany.

The line of the other brother, Philip, is more distinguished, and his descendants still remain near the original family seat. He was a trader in the city, and located the bouwery, so long and widely known as *The Flats*, adjoining that of the Patroon on the north, and embracing a portion of the present village of West Troy. He was a commissaris, or magistrate

of the city, and an officer in the church; and when the first church edifice was erected at the intersection of State Street and Broadway, in 1656, he contributed an emblazoned window, which is among the few that were preserved when the church was demolished, in 1806. An engraving of the relic is here given. It consists of a sash, composed of twelve panes,

Vert a falcon *sable* hooded, breasted, beaked and membered *or*, perched upon the dexter hand of the falconer, issuing from the sinister side of the shield. The arm clothed *or*. Surmounted by a helmet of steel standing in profile open-faced, and a gardevisure of five bars *or*, bordered and flowered of the same, and ornamented with its lambrequins *or* lined vert.—CREST a falcon of the shield on a mount *vert*.

stained, by a process said to be lost, to represent the words and figures shown in the engraving.

His son, Pieter Philipsen, was also a trader in the city, residing on the east side of Broadway, below State Street, at the great bridge, as it was called, which then crossed the Rutten Kil. He was the first mayor of

the city of Albany, when it received its charter, in 1685; and twenty-five years later, in the time of Queen Anne and the *Spectator*, he visited London with a number of Mohawk Indians. On this occasion, as is well known, his full-length portrait was painted, and is preserved among his descendants. Other sons, Brant and Arent, resided in New York. His youngest son, Johannes, was a trader, held a captain's commission, and, at the age of twenty-two, led an expedition into Canada. He had great influence with the Indians, and was also mayor of the city. His daughter, Margarita, was the American lady whose memory is rendered so famous by the pen of Mrs. Grant. His house-lot was on the southeast corner of State and Pearl Streets. The house in which he resided was taken away to widen Pearl Street, and the word *Anno* (which still remains upon the house that adjoined it, and is supposed to have been built at the same time) is a part of the date placed upon the whole front of the two—fifty-five feet—reading, in iron letters and figures,

Anno Domini.
1 6 6 7.

It was this house of her father that Madame Schuyler is supposed to have occupied during the time her house at The Flats was being rebuilt. His son, Philip, was killed by the French, at Saratoga, in 1745.

If one wishes to follow the progress of this family, genealogically, he is referred to Prof. Pearson's *First Settlers of Albany County*. Suffice it to say that this branch has had many eminent members, the most distinguished of which was Major-General Philip, of the Revolution, the nephew of Madame Schuyler.

THE SCHUYLER BURIAL-GROUND.

From the second bridge that spans the canal, north of the entrance to the Albany Cemetery, on the Watervliet turnpike, a quiet lane leads to the ancient Schuyler bouwery, known in history as *The Flats*; and nearly equi-distant between the canal and the river, in a cluster of locust-trees, a few rods north of the lane, is the family burial-ground. This bouwery, or farm, was first occupied by Col. Philip Pieterse Schuyler, the best known of the two brothers, who came from Holland about 1650, and each of whom, as we have seen, was the progenitor of a numerous family. The descendants of these brothers, as far as their names and memorials can be traced in the records, are given in the fourth volume of the *Historical Collections of Albany*. The earliest dead were buried in the church on State Street, or in the graveyard between Beaver and Hudson Streets,

now the site of the Middle Dutch Church. The Schuylers and Van Rensselaers frequently intermarried, and several of the former were entombed in the Van Rensselaer vault.

The plot of which we are speaking seems to have been appropriated to the purpose of a burial-place by Col. Philip, the third in descent from Philip Pieterse, the original settler, and who was also known as Philip Pietersen. His monument, which is the most conspicuous one in the enclosure, being raised upon pillars, also bears the earliest date, the inscription reading as follows:

In Memory of
COLNL PHILIP SCHUYLER,
A Gentleman who was Improved
in Several publick employments
in which he Acted with integrity,
he was Singularly hospitable,
a Sincere friend, kind Master,
& most tender Husband;
he Liv'd Respected, & died greatly Lamented.
Febry 16th 1758,
Aged 62 Years.

However much one may be impressed with the solemnity of the place, from its historic associations and the silence that pervades the "umbrageous grot of cool recess," his contemplation will be disturbed in a vain endeavor to conceive why such a soil should have been chosen for such a purpose. It is located upon a stratum of flat or oval rubble stone, of a reddish color, which is seen reaching to a distance above and below, and which can only be excavated by the use of a pick.

This Philip Schuyler was the husband of the celebrated Madame Schuyler (the American lady of Mrs. Grant), who was his cousin. She is said to have been buried by his side; but there is no monument nor any object to mark her place of sepulture. A large slab lies upon the ground near the one above mentioned, and of the same size and material, having a cavity in its upper side, apparently designed for a metal tablet, which is supposed to have been abstracted. There is nothing remaining upon to indicate its purpose, nor does any one know to whom it was dedicated; but it is the tradition that it was not designed for Madame Schuyler. The reason assigned for this neglect is, that she left her property is such a way as to give offence to some of the heirs, upon whom it was incumbent to provide her monument; but a question of duty or dissatisfaction arising, neither party would charge themselves with the undertaking. Indeed, it is now a matter of dispute among the present generation who shall keep the premises in repair, and they are in a very neglected condition. The owners of that portion of the ancient farm on the north having sold out, the cemetery now forms the line between the remaining portion and the village of West Troy; and the approach of streets and dwellings indicates an invasion at no distant day of this enclosure, and the removal of these bones and monuments to the cemetery over the way.

There are forty-three Schuyler monuments within the plot, and six other names, in no way connected with them, that have been admitted by

courtesy. Quite strangely, we meet in this ground with the monuments of the noted Mrs. Pye, the heroine of the Pye tavern robbery, in 1806, and of her husband, John Pye. The latter died in 1817, aged 65; his widow in 1843, aged 96 years, 10 months, and 2 days. There is evidently a considerable number of graves without headstones or monuments of any kind.

The scene looking south from this spot is one of great beauty, stretching over a level plain reaching to the Van Rensselaer mansion. A few rods from the cemetery stands the celebrated residence once occupied by Madame Schuyler, so distinguished by her dignity and many virtues, and her hospitality during many years to the officers of the British armies sent to contend with the French on the northern frontier. The house, which had been burned in 1763, was rebuilt a few years after, and the western portion of the wall that remained standing after the fire until a late day was distinctly marked, but remains as firm as the later masonry. A recent coat of paint has obliterated the line that marked the ancient wall. It stands a few rods from the river-bank, and has the same aspect as when it was built a hundred years ago. The front door, which is divided laterally, in the fashion of the day, into an upper and lower door, still retains its quaint old knocker; and the same old shutters, with their curious fastenings and hinges, remain as when it was built.

The road formerly passed in front of the house, near the river. Until some time within the present century, the road, known as the King's highway, after crossing the Patroon's Creek, at the north end of the city, passed down to the river in front of the Van Rensselaer mansion, and followed the margin of the river north. The occupants of this mansion saw marching directly before its door all those armies that were sent north, either in defence of the frontier or for the reduction of Canada in the French and Indian wars, and soon after in the campaigns of the Revolution. The officers of these colonial armies were famously entertained at her house; and after her death, it was here that her nephew, Maj.-Gen. Philip Schuyler, entertained Burgoyne, Madame Riedesel, and other British prisoners of distinction on their way to Albany.

In memory of
CORNELIA LOUISA
daughter of Cornelius
& Harriet Schuyler,
who died Oct. 9, 1828,
Æ. 3 yr's. 6 mo. 19 d's.

As the sweet flower that scents the morn,
But withers in the rising day,
Thus lovely was this infants dawn,
Thus swiftly fled its life away.

In Memory of

Edward Henry,
son of
Cornelius & Harriet
L. SCHUYLER,
died Jan. 29, 1835,
aged 4 years
& 16 days.
—o—

Jeremiah Cuyler,
son of
Cornelius & Harriet
L. SCHUYLER, died
Jan. 26, 1835, aged
1 year 7 months
& 7 days.
—o—

They have left a doubtful scene,
While their hearts were young and green,
Ere the stain of guilt was deep;
Wherefore, wherefore do ye weep.

In Memory of
JANE SCHUYLER,
wife of
Jeremiah Schuyler,
who died Feb. 5, 1832,
aged 61 years
8 months 2 days.

The night dew that falls though in silence it weeps,
Shall brighten with verdure the grave where she sleeps,
And the tear that we shed though in silence it rolls,
Shall long keep her memory fresh in our souls.

In
Memory
of
HARMANUS P. SCHUYLER
who died,
the 13th October 1822:
Aged 53 years 1 month
And 14 days.

In
Memory of
Gitty Schuyler
who died July 5th
1787 aged 27 Years
6 Months & 5 Days

SARAH PACKWOOD
Relict of
HARMANUS P. SCHUYLER;
BORN
July 20, 1780:
DIED
April 30, 1848:
—o—
Mother!

In Memory of
Mary & Philip. Daughter
& Son of Harmanus P. &
Mary Schuyler:
Mary died Apr. 12th 1792
aged 9 Months & 4 Days
& Philip Sep. 23d 1793
Aged 7 months & 28 ds

In
Memory of
ANN
Wife of
JOHN SCHUYLER Junr
who died
November 20th 1815,
Aged 46 years 10 months
and 9 days.

IN
MEMORY OF
JOHN SCHUYLER,
BORN
MAY 22. 1768,
DIED
MAY 15. 1843.
—o—
Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright,
for the end of that man is peace.

RACHEL V.
Daughter of
John C. & Anna Maria
SCHUYLER
Died June 13, 1851
Aged 13 y'rs 6 mo's & 16 d'ys
—o—
These ashes poor, this little dust
Our Father's care shall keep
Till the last angel rise and break
The long and dreary sleep.

Then love's soft dew o'er every eye
Shall shed its mildest rays
And the long silent dust shall burst
With shouts of endless praise.

In Memory of
RACHEL,
Daughter of John C.
& Anna Maria Schuyler
who died Feb. 13, 1834:
aged 2 years 2 months
and 2 days.

SACRED
TO THE
Memory of
LUCAS SCHUYLER,
who departed this life,
on the 21st day of October 1809
aged 24 years 7 months
and 12 days.

In
Memory of
PHILIP S.
son of
LUCAS V. V.
& ANGELICA
SCHUYLER
who died
Aug. 29, 1834
Aged 10 months
and 3 days.

IN
[Memory of
LUCAS V. V. SCHUYLER
WHO DIED
May 4th 1852
AGED
50 years 5 months
& 15 days.

In Memory
of Major PETER
SCHUYLER
who departed this Life
January 4th 1792
aged
43 Years. 10 Months
.and 5 Days.

CATHARINE C.
daughter of
JOHN C. & ANNA MARIA
SCHUYLER,
DIED
JUNE 1, 1855,
AGED 19 YRS. 10
MOS. & 3 DYS.
—o—
Lord I commit my soul to thee
Accept the sacred trust;
Receive this nobler part of me,
And watch my sleeping dust.

SACRED
To the memory of
MARIA SCHUYLER,
who departed this life,
21st. January 1815 :
Aged 37 years 4 months
and 10 days.

In memory
of Engilica daughter
of Peter and Catherine
Schuyler : who
departed this life
24th Sept 1793
aged 3 years & 16 days

In memory
of Engelica the third
daughter of Peter
& Catharine Schuyler
who departed this life
July 16th 1796
aged 1 year
5 months & 22 days.

In memory
of Susanna Daughter
of Peter & Catherine
Schuyler
who departed this life
Sept 17th 1796
aged 5 months

ERECTED
In Memory of
PETER SCHUYLER,
Who Died
April 9th 1865,
AGED
35 years 1 mo. 26 D'ys.
—o—
" For so he giveth his beloved sleep."

In
Memory of
ENGELICA SCHUYLER
Daughter of Peter S. and
Catharine Schuyler ;
who departed this life,
26th December 1812,
Aged 14 Years 2 Months
and 26 Days.

From adverse blasts, and low'ring storms,
Her favour'd soul he bore :
And with yon bright, angelic form,
She lives to die no more.

REUBEN SCHUYLER
DIED
May 23, 1842.
Aged 80 Y'rs.
4 Mo's. & 16 days.

In
Memory of
PETER S. SCHUYLER
who died
November 1st.
1 8 3 2 ,
aged 74 years
5 months and 9 days.

In Memory of
CATHARINE
SCHUYLER
Wife of
PETER S. SCHUYLER
WHO DIED
Sept 28, 1855
aged 91 years
5 months
& 11 days

In Memory of
Col^{nl} PHILIP SCHUYLER
A Gentleman who was Improved
in Several publick employments
in which he Acted with integrity,
he was Singularly hospitable,
a Sincere friend, kind Master
& most tender Husband ;
he Liv'd Respected, & died greatly
Lamented.
Febry 16th 1758
Aged 62 Years.

IN
Memory
of
ANNA
wife of
PHILIP P. SCHUYLER
she died
the 5th day of Decr 1802
aged
58 years 11 months & 18 days

In
Memory
of
PHILIP P. SCHUYLER,
Obiit
3d June 1808
Æt.
72 yrs. 1 mo. & 3 days.

ELIZABETH
wife of
REUBEN SCHUYLER ;
DIED
May 27, 1838,
Aged 48 y'rs. 10 m's.
& 19 days.

PHILIP S. SCHUYLER

Died

JULY 20. 1844,

AGED 79 YEARS

& 11 MO'S.

—o—

My work is done, securely laid,
In this my last retreat,
Unheeded, o'er my silent dust,
The storms of life shall beat.

In
Memory of
RACHEL SCHUYLER
wife of
PHILIP S. SCHUYLER
who died,
March 29th 1809,
Aged 44 years
and 3 months.

ANGELICA,
Daughter of
Reuben & Elizabeth
SCHUYLER
DIED
January 22 1848
Aged 32 Y'rs. & 11 m's.

In Memory
of Engeltie Schuyler ; Wife
of Stephen Schuyler
who departed this Life
April 22d 1792. Aged,
65 Years 5 Months & 5 Days.

—o—

How lov'd how valu'd once, avails Thee not
To whom related or by whom begot
A heap of Dust alone remains of Thee
Tis all Thou artt and all the Proud shall be

IN
memory
of STEPHEN SCHUYLER
who departed this life
the 6th of October 1798
aged, 66 years 6 months
and 11 days.

In memory of
DOCTOR
STEPHEN SCHUYLER
WHO DIED
Oct. 4th 1857,
Aged 62 years
11 months &
7 days.

In memory of
JOHN
son of
Stephen R
& Catharine E
SCHUYLER
Who died
Jan'y 31, 1854
Aged 8 years
9 months
& 29 days.

—o—

Alas how chang'd that lovely flower
Which bloom'd & cheer'd my heart
Fair fleeting comfort of an hour
How soon we are call'd to part.

ANGELICA
Daughter of
Stephen P. and
Angelica Schuyler
Died
September 11th 1827
Aged 7 Months
and 21 days.

CHARLES,
son of
Stephen P. and
Angelica Schuyler
Died
April 9th 1836,
Aged 6 Years,
4 Months,
and 21 Days.

WILLIAM C.
son of Willard,
and Rhoda Earl ;
died March 4th, 1831 :
in the 14th year of his age.

The night dew that falls though in silence it weeps,
Shall brighten with verdure the grave where he sleeps ;
And the tear that we shed though in silence it rolls,
Shall long keep his memory fresh in our souls.

In Memory of
CATHARINE ELIZABETH
wife of
STEPHEN R. SCHUYLER,
Who Died
May 21, 1849,
Aged 30 years 4 month
& 5 days.

—o—

Sleep dearest ! until the Arch Angels
Trump shall call the home.

To the
Memory of
PETER STEPHEN,
son of Stephen R. &
Catharine E. Schuyler,
who died
July 3, 1860,
AGED
21 years, 7 months,
& 7 days.

CATHARINE. E.
Daughter of
Tho's. H. & Angelica G.
SCHUYLER,
Born Oct. 8, 1848.
Died Dec. 5, 1849.

—o—

On Earth, nipt in the bud,
In Heaven, blooms eternally.

In Memory
of John Cuyler
who departed this Life
August 31st 1793
Aged. 61 Years & 11 Months.

My flesh shall slumber in the ground
Till the last trumpets joyfull sound
Then burst the chains with sweet surprise
And in my Saviours image rise.

IN
Memory of
ELIZABETH NUTT
widow of
JOHN PYE,
afterwards widow of
WILLIAM NUTT,
who died
Oct. 27th 1843,
aged 96 years
10 mo's. & 2 days.

In
Memory
of
GERARDUS LANSINGH
who departed this Life
the 24th day of March
1808
aged 84 years
and 7 months

In
Memory of
JOHN PYE,
a native of England.
Who departed this life
the 27th July 1817;
Aged 65 years
and 7 months;

In
Memory of
GERTRUDE,
Wife of
James Van Ingen,
who died 21st Dec'r 1825
Aged 52 years 5 months
and 28 days.

In
Memory,
of
ARTHUR HASWELL.
who departed this Life,
March 28th 1804.
Aged 47 years 2 months
and 28 days

In
Memory
of
JEREMIAH son of
STEPHEN R. & ANGELICA
SCHUYLER who died
August 18th 1825 aged
1 year 7 months
& 1 day.

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